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A client device is connectable to a server via a communication network for receiving new software packages. The client device includes a pair of system partitions designated as current and backup system partitions and at least one package partition on which all installed system packages are saved. A central processing unit of the client device uses the contents of the current system partition. In response to an startup failure or a runtime failure, the client device reboots using the backup system partition and allows a user to selectively install any of the software packages saved on the at least one package partition.